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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/518,376	12/28/2004	Hideto Kobayashi	P26451	2854
7055 7590 03/19/2009 GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C. 1950 ROLAND CLARKE PLACE RESTON, VA 20191				
EXAMINER				
TOPGYAL, GELEK W				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2621				
NOTIFICATION DATE		DELIVERY MODE		
03/19/2009		ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

gbpatent@gbpatent.com

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Office Action Summary**Application No.**

10/518,376

Applicant(s)

KOBAYASHI, HIDETO

Examiner

GELEK TOPGYAL

Art Unit

2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 December 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

2. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

The USPTO "Interim Guidelines for Examination of Patent Applications for Patent Subject Matter Eligibility" (Official Gazette notice of 22 November 2005), Annex IV, reads as follows:

Descriptive material can be characterized as either "functional descriptive material" or "nonfunctional descriptive material." In this context, "functional descriptive material" consists of data structures and computer programs which impart functionality when employed as a computer component. (The definition of "data structure" is "a physical or logical relationship among data elements, designed to support specific data manipulation function." The New IEEE Standard Dictionary of Electrical and Electronic Terms 308 (5th ed. 1993).) "Nonfunctional descriptive material" includes but is not limited to music, literary works and a compilation or mere arrangement of data.

When functional descriptive material is recorded on some computer-readable medium it becomes structurally and functionally interrelated to the medium and will be statutory in most cases since use of technology permits the function of the descriptive material to be realized. Compare *In re Lowry*, 32 F.3d 1579, 1583-84, 32 USPQ2d 1031, 1035 (Fed. Cir. 1994) (claim to data structure stored on a computer readable medium that increases computer efficiency held statutory) and *Warmerdam*, 33 F.3d at 1360-61, 31 USPQ2d at 1759 (claim to computer having a specific data structure stored in memory held statutory product-by-process claim) with *Warmerdam*, 33 F.3d at 1361, 31 USPQ2d at 1760 (claim to a data structure per se held statutory).

In contrast, a claimed computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program is a computer element which defines structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and the rest of the computer which permit the computer program's functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory. See *Lowry*, 32 F.3d at 1583-84, 32 USPQ2d at 1035.

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter as follows. Claim 12 defines a *conversion program* embodying functional descriptive material. However, the claim does not define a computer-readable medium or memory and is thus non-statutory for that reason (i.e.,

"When functional descriptive material is recorded on some computer-readable medium it becomes structurally and functionally interrelated to the medium and will be statutory in most cases since use of technology permits the function of the descriptive material to be realized" – Guidelines Annex IV). That is, the scope of the presently claimed *conversion program* can range from a paper on which the program is written, to a program simply contemplated and memorized by a person. The examiner suggest amending the claim to embody the program on "computer-readable medium" or equivalent in order to make the claim statutory. Any amendment to the claim should be commensurate with its corresponding disclosure.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. **Claims 1-15** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Klemets et al. (US 7,451,229).

5. **Regarding claims 1, 5, 11 and 12**, Klemets et al. teaches an AV data conversion method/apparatus/computer readable medium comprising:

a verification file confirmation means for reading an AV data file containing AV data including video information and audio information (col. 6, lines 24-54 teaches the

generation of streaming media files in different formats and also to include a plurality of different metadata to be included in a header. This means is implemented when a user requests a particular stream as discussed in col. 7, lines 24-62), and a verification file for the AV data file, and confirming if the AV data file and verification file mutually correspond (col. 6, lines 24-54 teaches the generation of streaming media files in different formats and also to include a plurality of different metadata to be included in a header);

a plurality of stream conversion means for changing the AV data to a specific format (col. 7, lines 24-62 teaches of a plurality of streams available to be broadcast); and

a conversion method determining means for selecting from among the plural stream conversion means at least one stream conversion means for changing the AV data to the specific format based on verification file content (col. 8, lines 15-47 teaches that once a stream format is chosen by a user (RTSP SETUP request), the specific stream (including "content description") is transmitted to the user. It is to be noted that the encoder's operation can be in real-time and therefore the conversion takes place (col. 6, lines 50-54)).

As to claims 11 and 12, Klemets et al. teaches in col. 13, lines 56+ of computer storage media that includes computer executable instructions for performing the functions of a server.

Regarding claim 2, Klemets et al. teaches the claimed wherein the verification file contains AV data attributes from when the AV data file was created (col. 6, lines 24-

54 teaches of creating metadata when the streaming media files are created); wherein the verification file confirmation means comprises: an AV data attribute extraction means for extracting AV data attributes from the read AV data file; and a comparison means for comparing the AV data attributes extracted by the AV data attribute extraction means with the AV data attributes contained in the verification file (as discussed in claims 1, 5, 11 and 12 above, when a user requests a particular stream, the server receives the request (RTSP SETUP request). Then in col. 8, lines 30-34 the server sends the requested stream to the user); and wherein the stream conversion means converts the AV data to the specified format only when the comparison means confirms an attribute match (as discussed in claims 1, 5, 11 and 12 above).

Regarding claim 3, Klemets et al. teaches the claimed as discussed in claims 1, 5, 11 and 12 above since the metadata can include data in the form of "Titles" or "Authors" which identifies a vendor.

Regarding claim 4, Klemets et al. teaches in col. 7, lines 1-14 of the ability to generate a new/updated metadata meets the claimed ability to generate a verification file when it is not presently readable (since the server determines that it shouldn't be used anymore).

Claims 6 and 7 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 2 and 4 above.

Claims 8, 10, 13-15 are rejected for the same reasons as discussed in claims 3 above.

Independent claim 9 is rejected for the same reasons as discussed in the claims 1, 2 and 4 above.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited prior art teaches devices that allows for conversion of streams based a certain input selection.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to GELEK TOPGYAL whose telephone number is (571)272-8891. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am -5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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/Gelek Topgyal/
Examiner, Art Unit 2621

/JAMIE JO VENT ATALA/

Examiner, Art Unit 2621